# Equity and Social Justice (ESJ) in the Solid Waste Division





## King County Ordinance 16948

Ordinance 16948 - consider equity and social justice impacts in all decision-making so that decisions increase fairness and opportunity for all people, particularly for:

- People of color
- Low-income communities, and
- People with limited English proficiency





## So what is Equity & Social Justice?

#### **Social Justice**

 ...requires the fair distribution of public goods, institutional resources and life opportunities for all people.

### **Equity**

 means all people have full and equal access to opportunities that enable them to attain their full potential.

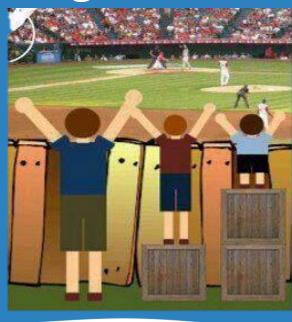


## What is the difference between Equity and Equality?

Everyone gets the same thing



Everyone gets what they need





#### **Destination Zero Waste:**

### Connecting underrepresented youth to their solid waste system





#### **Destination Zero Waste**

- To enhance SWD's ESJ efforts, the External ESJ Committee developed the "Destination Zero Waste" program to bring underrepresented gradeschool children to tour the Bow Lake Recycling and Transfer Station
- Underrepresented students include those who:
  - Live in poverty
  - Have limited English skills
  - Receive free or reduced lunch
  - Are people of color



## **Destination Zero Waste Tour Highlights**

- A tour of the station describing engineering, design, construction, and operations
- "Classroom" time to reinforce recycling methods and introduce students to SWD's diverse workforce
- A healthy snack
- A post-tour quiz to understand what was learned



#### **Benefits and Outcomes**

- Bridge the gap between who we are and the diverse communities we serve
- Give underrepresented children the chance to participate in their future
- Exposure to future career opportunities





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